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	Hydrology Operations Manual	

Rainfall Site Inspection SOP

This SOP outlines the general procedure for inspecting a rainfall recording site. Please note, in some situations this procedure may need to be adjusted based on the conditions encountered at the time of inspection.

Site Inspections

Site inspections should be completed at a maximum of every three months to ensure that the gauges are in working condition. Some sites that experience high rainfall may require more frequent inspection.

- Upon arrival at the site, the recorded intensity gauge tips should be noted on the electronic field sheet.
- The primary reference gauge should be checked with the correct dip stick and then checked via 50mm flask measurements or digital scales and the total amount recorded on the field sheet.
- If the intensity gauge value deviates from the primary reference gauge by 10% or more, a field validation check must be carried out (see CD-OM Appendix 12.4 Rainfall Validation)
- Check that the OTA/TB3 is level.
- The OTA/TB3 should be checked and cleaned including the siphon (where present), drains, and contacts.
- The ROM should also be cleaned as per above.
- OTA/TB3 and RoM (where present) should have 5 (OTA/TB3) and 2 (RoM) tips put through respectively
- Document the number of manual tips, the time they occurred, the final recorded totals, and then zero the logger totals.
- **Ensure any communications connections and hardware are reconnected**
- The ground must be sprayed regularly to prevent grass growth particularly at the onset of spring

Site surveys

When undertaking a regular site survey, follow the procedure above, including the following steps:

- Regardless of the intensity gauge relationship to primary reference gauge deviation, carry out a field validation of the intensity gauge and record the result on the electronic field sheet
- Record all:
 - Instruments on site along with their serial numbers
 - Heights of gauges
 - Distances between gauges
 - Enclosure fence dimensions
 - Distances from gauges to potential obstructions